

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending in the present patent application. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-23. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of claims 1-23 in view of at least the following amendments and remarks.

I. Specification – Requested Submission of Computer Program Listing as a “Microfiche Appendix”

The Examiner has requested submission of the computer program listing printout of more than ten pages contained in the Applicant's specification as a “microfiche appendix” conforming to the standards of 37 CFR Section 1.96(c). Applicant believes that Section 1.96(c) has been revised to require submission of such listings after March 1, 2001, as CD-ROM or CD-R only. Therefore, Applicant submits the computer program listing in CD-R form in accordance with the current Section 1.96(c).

II. Rejection of Claims 1-23 Based on 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-23 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Borman et al. (U.S. patent 5,890,172) in view of Kelley (U.S. patent 6,078,921). The Examiner states:

As per claim 1, Borman et al., hereinafter Borman, teach the following subject matter:

a browsing mechanism with browser interface 400, at Figs. 5A - 5C, and col. 7, lines 52-53, configured to render a current data resource, i.e., a file retrieved by the browser, and to navigate through plural data resources, using the Back 412, Forward, and Home 414 buttons; and

an attachment mechanism, using jumper window 300, at Fig. 3, configured to retrieve an attachment from the browser in response to a user event, i.e., by a selecting a

hot-link with a mouse, at col. 6, lines 55-60, the attachment associated with the current data resource, since the "hot-links are extracted from a file initially retrieved by the browser".

Regarding claim 1, Borman describes that in another embodiment, "the user will be able to invoke the product from within their electronic e-mail box simply by double-clicking on attached files" at col. 12, lines 62-64. However, Borman does not specifically teach attaching the attachment to an e-mail message. Nor does Borman specifically teach a selection mechanism to select a portion of a current data resource.

On the other hand, Kelley teaches a method for selecting a portion of a current data resource in response to user input, at Fig. 6C, and col. 7, lines 16-30, which results in a "single file that can be used to store and view multi-part files" and create a "single attachment of multi-part files in a -mail system", at col. 7, lines 38-41. For example, Kelley teaches that the combined file "can be coupled to a e-mail message" at col. 7, lines 41-42.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to attach a portion of a current data resource to an e-mail message as taught by Kelley in the invention of Borman because it allows a user to "convert multi-part files into a single file for use and transfer" at col. 4, lines 19-20.

Borman teaches that the attachment comprises a resource locator [claim 2] at col. 7, lines 62-63, or source data [claim 3] associated with the current data resource at col. 13, lines 32-38.

Kelley teaches selecting an attachment type [claim 4] at Fig. 6C, and col. 7, lines 34-35.

Furthermore, Borman teaches that the attachment mechanism comprises a button [claim 5] with refresh/update button 326, at Fig. 3, and col. 7, lines 17-19. As to claim 6, Borman teaches navigating to a first data resource, in browser window 406, using a resource locator, with hot-link 580, in a second data resource, in jumper window 300, all at Fig. 6.

Regarding claims 7-11, they are similar to claims 1, 4, 2, 3, and 6. Claims 12-16 correspond respectively to claims 7-11; while claims 17-19, 21, and 23 correspond to claims 1-3, 6 and 1.

As per claim 20, the first part is similar to claim 4, while the second part is taught by Borman with site window 404, at col. 7, line 32, and at Fig. 5A, which allows a user to select the property value by entering the site location.

As to claim 22, Borman teaches the following:

a stack configured to contain resource locators of navigated data resources, with history creation process 712, at Fig. 7, and col. 9, lines 40-42; and

one or more methods configured to browse navigated data by stepping forward or backward within the stack, at col. 9, lines 43-56.

Applicant submits that claims 1-23, as amended, are allowable for at least the following reasons:

1. Borman and/or Kelley, alone or in combination do not teach, suggest, or describe attaching to an e-mail message an attachment associated with a selected portion of a current data resource.

Independent claims 1, 7, 12, 17, and 23, as amended comprises attaching to an e-mail message selecting "a portion" of a data resource in response to a user input. For example, the claims recite that a portion of a data resource, a desired data resource, or a current data resource may be selected by a user via a selecting mechanism.

Applicant submits that none of the cited prior art teaches, suggests, or describes these elements. In the Examiner's obviousness rejection of claims 7, 12, 17, and 23, the Examiner relied upon Kelley to address the claimed steps. Specifically, in the fourth paragraph on page 4 of the Examiner's Office Action, the Examiner states that:

Kelley teaches a method for selecting a portion of a current data resource in response to user input, at Fig. 6C, and col. 7, lines 16-30, which results in a "single file that can be used to store and view multi-part files" and create a "single attachment of multi-part files in a -mail system", at col. 7, lines 38-41. For example, Kelley teaches that the combined file "can be coupled to a e-mail message" at col. 7, lines 41-42

The cited portion of Kelley describes converting a set of files into a single "multi-part" file. For example, in column 6, lines 39-43, Kelley describes:

In the present invention, a sender initiates creation of a combined file by selecting or compiling a directory of files to be transmitted to a receiver. These files may be hypertext files or any other type of linked file. These files are then concatenated into a single file referred to as a "result" file.

In fact, the cited portion of Kelley specifies that the files in directory be whole individual files. For instance, in column 7, lines 26-30, Kelley describes:

The add button 605 gives interface 611 of FIG. 6C. This interface displays the contents of the selected source folder. Individual files can be added to the result file by clicking on the Add button of interface 611.

Thus, in order to accomplish its purpose, Kelley requires that whole individual files be added to the directory from which those whole individual files are concatenated into a single "multi-part" file whose parts are the individual files. However, in Kelley, selecting a portion of a data resource for attachment to an e-mail is not accomplished.

On the other hand, Applicant's claim comprises the selection of a portion of a current data resource for attachment to an e-mail. Here a data resource has been rendered and a portion of that current resource is being selected in response to a user input. Then, an attachment associated with that selected portion of the current data resource will be attached to an e-mail message. Therefore, the user selection of a portion of a current data resource to be sent as an attachment of the Applicant's invention is distinct from the chaining together of multiple whole files to create a single file attachment, of Kelley.

Dependent Claims 2-6, 8-11, 13-16, and 18-22

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-6, 8-11, 13-16, and 18-22, being dependent upon respective allowable base claims 1, 7, 12, and 17, are also allowable for at least the foregoing reasons stated above.

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-23 are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that pending claims 1-23 be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

THE HECKER LAW GROUP

Date: March 7, 2001

By: _____

Angelo J. Gatz
Reg. No. 45,907

THE HECKER LAW GROUP
1925 Century Park East
Suite 2300
Los Angeles, California 90067
(310) 286-0377

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

This is to certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on: March 7, 2001.

Signature: Elayne Wells
Elayne Wells

March 7, 2001
Date